~~Secret~~ [redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF THE [redacted] FORCE
[redacted] ARY

Maj [redacted]

F-A-R-F-A-S-T-I-C!

Here's a little bit of Americana. The launches of SAMOS I, II, and III were the only SAMOS launches announced to the press in any detail; i.e, they were acknowledged as photographic missions. Of the three, only SAMOS II achieved orbit, on January 31, 1961.

The attached message announces the imminent decay -- probably tomorrow -- of the Atlas booster, after almost ten years (and 54,088 revolutions) in orbit.

The SAMOS vehicle, a readout system which returned photographs of about 100 foot

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

resolution, is still catalogued as being in orbit.

[redacted]

Note: 10/12
seen by Dr. Naka & Dr. McLucas [redacted]